

MAILS.  
From San Francisco:  
Sierra, Jan. 11.  
For San Francisco:  
Korea, Jan. 12.  
From Vancouver:  
Indefinite.  
For Vancouver:  
Makura, Jan. 8.

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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## WILSON'S NOTE FINDS BRITISH CABINET CONCILIATORY BRITAIN MAY SUGGEST AMERICA BUY TEUTON SHIPS NOW IDLE

### LOCAL HARBOR FUND CUT OUT; WORK MENACED

Item of \$200,000 For Important Dredging at This Port Is Dropped

IMMEDIATE ACTION AT WASHINGTON IS NEEDED

Chamber of Commerce Committee Taking Interest; Meeting Is Called

Unless immediate representations are made at Washington, D. C., Honolulu harbor will not be included in the rivers and harbors bill and will receive no appropriation for maintenance for the coming fiscal year.

A letter has been received by Raymond C. Brown, secretary of the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce, from Prince Kuhio, Hawaii's delegate to Congress, stating that the committee submitting the bill at Washington pruned the Honolulu appropriation out of the measure and that it probably will be passed by Congress without provision for the local harbor unless steps are taken to restore the appropriation.

As a result a special meeting of the committee on maritime affairs was called at the Chamber of Commerce rooms this morning. After an hour's discussion the meeting adjourned until tomorrow for action. At tomorrow's meeting a definite program for the restoration of the Honolulu appropriation to the bill may be mapped out and immediate action ordered.

The policy of the present national administration of starting no new projects and using available funds for completion of old work, is given as the reason for Honolulu harbor being left out of the bill.

Kahului Gets \$10,000.  
The only item of local interest carried in the bill is \$10,000 for maintenance of Kahului harbor. The sum of \$200,000 was asked by local army engineers for extensive dredging of the coral shoals on the Quarantine island side of Honolulu harbor, and this is not included.

Some dredging in Honolulu harbor will be done in the near future, however, under an allotment of \$90,000 which has just been made available, out of a total appropriation of \$20,000,000, which was given in a lump sum to the chief of engineers for necessary improvement work. The dredging will be done on the Honolulu side of the harbor, and will widen and improve the channel considerably for its entire length. Specifications for this dredging will be issued from the office of the district engineer officer, Lieut.-col. Bromwell, on January 11. Bids will be opened February 15 at 11 a. m.

From the \$20,000,000 total there also has been allotted for Hawaii \$10,000 for Kahului harbor, so that if the rivers and harbors bill goes through there will be a total of \$20,000 for Kahului. This must last until June 30, 1916, but it is estimated that the sum will be ample to keep harbor and breakwater in repair under ordinary conditions.

For Hilo breakwater there is still \$42,000 available, but as there has been a long delay in the work none of this is being paid out.

The importance of immediate action probably will be brought before other commercial organizations of the city at regular and special sessions.

### JAPANESE FOUND DYING IN TRACKS; THOUGHT SUICIDE

Despondence over a long illness is believed to have caused Honma, a Japanese plantation laborer, to attempt suicide late last night. Honma was found a short distance from Wai-pahu railway station, with one arm off above the elbow and the other bruised. He was taken to Waipahu plantation hospital and is expected to die.

The Japanese is believed to have attempted either to board or throw himself in front of one of the Oahu Railway passenger trains that left Honolulu before midnight.

Several Hawaiian fishermen passing along the track came upon the injured man, sitting upright, though unconscious, early this morning. They immediately summoned Deputy Sheriff J. Fernandez.

### SPEEDY CALIFORNIA GIRL SWIMMER WILL COME TO RACE HERE

[Associated Press by Fed. Wireless.]  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 7.—Miss Dorothy Becker, the speedy young California swimmer, will sail for Honolulu on February 2, to compete against Miss Ruth Stacker of Honolulu, holder of the American woman's record for 50 yards.

### U. S. TO PROTEST TO CANADA ON SHOOTING OF TWO DUCK HUNTERS

[Associated Press by Fed. Wireless.]  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—The state department is preparing to protest against the shooting of two duck-hunters from Buffalo, who were fired on by Canadian game-wardens for alleged infringement of the game law on the Canadian side. The department will ask that reparation be made to the families of the men.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—The British ambassador has notified Secretary Bryan that the government is preparing to pay damages for the death of the Buffalo duck hunters, without determining the question of responsibility.

### ADMIRALTY BELIEVES FORMIDABLE VICTIM OF GERMAN SUBMARINE

[Associated Press by Fed. Wireless.]  
LONDON, Eng., Jan. 7.—Marquis Crew announced today that the British admiralty is convinced that a submarine torpedoed the 15,000 ton British battleship Formidable twice.

### SIX HOURS IN JAIL AND EMPTY STOMACH CAUSE MURATA TO OBEY COURT

Six hours in jail brought deep contrition to the heart of Murata, the Japanese elevator boy of the Blaisdell hotel, who was given a 30-day sentence by Judge Whitney because he refused to produce the clothing of his wife when she left him and brought suit for divorce. At the end of six hours, about dinner-time last evening, Murata went to Judge Whitney and said he was ready to do anything to atone if he could gain liberty.

Accordingly, the judge ordered his release temporarily, and further released by ordering the commitment vacated this morning when Murata faithfully promised to produce all his wife's belongings in court tomorrow. In place of his pronounced "cocky" demeanor of yesterday Murata today presented a man of deep humility. He abjectly begged the court's forgiveness and declared he would hereafter "be a good boy, and do just what the court ordered him to do."

### MUCH-NEEDED CHANNEL TO KALIHI HARBOR IS LIKELY TO BE DELAYED

There is little chance that the Kalihi harbor project will be considered by Congress at this session, no matter how urgent the appeals from local commercial sources, or how strong the endorsement from the army engineers. Congress is appropriating for no harbor improvement projects, and those in Washington who have been working in the interests of the local improvement have been given to understand this very distinctly.

The Kalihi project is now before the rivers and harbors board, and there it is likely to remain for some time to come. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$1,779,000, and this sounds like too much real money to be expended just now, according to Washington advice.

### HUSBAND DESERTS HER WITH TWO CHILDREN, FAR FROM MAUI HOME

With two small children depending upon her for support, and with but a scant remainder of \$3 to provide food for them, a Hawaiian woman applied for assistance at the office of the Associated Charities this morning and informed the officials that her husband had deserted her and gone to Maui. The woman was given food and may be sent with her children to her former home on Maui.

According to the woman's story she came to Honolulu from Maui with her husband about five months ago, and went to live in alihi. A few days ago, she says, her husband went away from home, leaving her \$3 with which to support herself and children until his return. Later, she learned that he had gone to Maui, and that he probably never would come back to Honolulu. The woman says that she has no relatives other than her husband and children. She told the charities officials that she would be willing to go back to Maui, and her passage probably will be arranged for on the next steamer.

The Erie railroad will increase its repair shop forces.

### BRITISH EXPERT SAYS GAINS OF ALLIES MARKED

Declares Morale of the German Army Must Soon Be Affected By Complete Block

TURKS CLAIM VICTORY IN PERSIAN ARMENIA

Says Important Russian Position of Urumiah Has Been Occupied

[Associated Press by Fed. Wireless.]  
LONDON, Eng., Jan. 7.—A British military observer writes from the Continent:

"The original small British expeditionary force has now developed into a great army and is steadily increasing. This has insured that the war struggle is entering into a fourth phase. The initiative has now definitely passed into the Allies' hands. "The German offensive operations are founded on the military axiom that the weaker force is harder pressed and the more persistently should its attack. Nevertheless, the Allies' gains are now really marked. If they continue, the German private must gradually realize that his role is merely to maintain ground already won. When he sees that even this limited object is not obtained, the morale of the German armies must inevitably be affected."

### TURKS SAY THEY ARE NOW OCCUPYING ONE OF RUSSIA'S ARMY BASES

[Associated Press by Fed. Wireless.]  
BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 7.—The Turkish official bulletin says that the Ottoman army has occupied Urumiah, an important Russian base in Persian Armenia.

### WHARF-TAX LAW WILL BE ASKED OF LEGISLATURE

Harbor Commissioners See Urgent Need of Additional Income From Freight

The harbor commission again will ask the legislature to enact a wharfage-tax law fixing a tonnage rate on incoming freight, to be paid either by the shippers or consignees. It is the preparation of the data on which the commissioner's argument is to be made that is in preparation now, and they figure that this data will prove their most powerful ally.

The proposition briefly is that the commission wants the territory to realize a larger income from its wharves, to enable it to construct concrete piers hereafter, instead of the wooden structures employed at the present time.

One of the commissioners has been accumulating statistics for many years back which are expected to show that after five years' service a newly-built pier requires an additional expenditure equal to 50 per cent of its original cost in repairs, to bring it up to standard condition again. In other words, the wooden wharves deteriorate 50 per cent in five years' time, and for every year after the first five the rate of deterioration increases rapidly.

Concrete wharf construction has been generally tested throughout the world and found far more satisfactory from the standpoint of durability than frame construction. The original cost of building them is greater, of course, but the expense of repair and maintenance is said to be found so materially reduced that the concrete structures pay back in this way far more than the difference in cost of the old-style piers.

Permanent Wharves Wanted.  
The commission will ask the legislature for larger appropriations for wharves, to permit the construction of this kind of pier, and at the same time ask the imposition of a wharf tonnage tax to enable the wharves of the territory to pay back the sinking

(Continued on page eight)

### For Rent or Lease

One Store, 30x45 ft., Alakea St. Lot 65x100 ft., with barn, Miller St. H. E. HENDRICK, LTD., Merchant and Alakea Sts.

### Japan's Premier Resigns to Pave Way For Harmony and Expansion of Army



Premier Count Okuma, veteran Japanese publicist and statesman who ends troublous career as prime minister.

[Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless.]  
TOKIO, Japan, Jan. 7.—Count Shigenobu Okuma, premier of Japan, resigned today as an outcome of the bitter political controversy that caused the dissolution of Parliament a few days ago. Count Kanetake Oura, minister of commerce and agriculture, succeeds him. The changes are due to a desire to strengthen the government at the coming elections. The controversy arose largely over the plan to add two army divisions to the standing army, the government proposal. Count Okuma has been premier for about ten months.

### Did Okuma Resign Two Portfolios?

A special cablegram to the Japanese newspaper Nippon Jiji says that Okuma has resigned as minister of the interior, but says nothing of his resignation as premier. The cablegram is as follows:

"TOKIO, Japan, Jan. 7.—Viscount Curo, former minister of communication, today was appointed minister of the interior by Emperor Yoshihito. H. Kono was appointed minister of communication. For the past several months the office of minister of the interior has been held by Count Okuma."

### Formal Denial Made that Germans Have Arrested Catholic Cardinal

LONDON, England, Jan. 7.—The German military governor of Belgium has officially denied that Cardinal Mercier, archbishop of Mechlin, has been arrested. It was reported that the cardinal had been arrested by the German military authorities on a charge of having advised Catholics not to recognize the German military administration.

### KAUAI RAILROAD ACTION EXPECTED

Plans for the industrial railroad on Kauai to serve Kapaa homesteaders are taking shape quickly now and some definite developments are expected within the next few days, according to a report at the capital building this morning.

Land Commissioner Tucker said that J. F. O. Hagens of H. Hackfeld & Co., agents for Lihue plantation, and Frank E. Thompson, attorney representing the plantation, will go to Kauai tonight to look over the situation there. Governor Pinkham said that he has outlined plans to the plantation on which an agreement early action may be secured. It was reported today that Lihue directors, after an important meeting, are inclined to look upon the recent developments as pointing toward a feasible plan for the construction of this road. The details of the railroad scheme have been much discussed for several months past and are rather complex. In fact, two railroad schemes have been in process of discussion. One of these is the plan of Col. Z. S. Spalding of Maake Sugar Company, as outlined in an interview in the Star-Bulletin

several weeks ago. Under this plan Col. Spalding would extend the plantation line, which ships from Kealia, to serve government and homestead lands. The other scheme is that of Lihue plantation to extend its line. Thus the government lands may be approached from two almost opposite directions. It is the Lihue line that is the subject of local negotiation now. E. M. Cheatham, Fred R. Tracy and C. E. French, homesteaders in the district needing railroad service, came to Honolulu and have had a conference with the governor. They will probably return tonight. They have nothing to say for publication.

It is reported that Col. Spalding called a meeting of cane-growers a week ago and offered new contracts, to pay \$1 per ton for cane for every cent in the sugar price; that is, with sugar at four cents, he would pay \$4 per ton for cane.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 7.—Sugar: 96 degrees test, 4.11 cents. Previous quotation 4.08 cents.

Mayor Lane and City Engineer Wall toured the various city plants and power stations today to allow the new city executive an opportunity to inspect them. The water works department was given special attention by the mayor.

### BERNSTORFF'S DECLARATION BRINGS DETAILED REPLIES FROM AMERICAN GUN FIRMS

REMINGTON AND WINCHESTER COMPANIES SAY ARE MAKING NEITHER GUNS NOR AMMUNITION FOR USE OF ALLIES—GREAT BRITAIN'S ANSWER TO WILSON'S STAND ON COMMERCE WILL BE WHOLLY CONCILIATORY—FORMALLY DENIED THAT GERMANS HAVE ARRESTED CARDINAL MERCIER—WESTERN ARMY STILL SCENE OF SLOW FIGHTING—FRENCH CABINET PUBLISHES REPORT CHARGING SAVAGE ATROCITIES.

[Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless.]  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—An emphatic denial is made by American gun and ammunition firms to the charges of Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador, that the Remington and Winchester companies are supplying the Allies with 20,000 so-called riot-guns, 5,000,000 buckshot cartridges and 8,000,000 dum-dum bullets.

Secretary of State Bryan today transmitted the companies' denials. The Winchester company declares that it made no such munitions for anybody. The Remington company says that it made 117,000 soft-nosed bullets and cartridges for game-shooting alone and that this munition is not suitable for any military rifle. It says that 109,000 of these bullets were sold, of which 906 went to Canada and 200 to British East Africa. The remainder were sold in small lots to American buyers. The company is willing to supply the names of all the buyers.

### Great Britain Will Agree to U. S. Government Buying German Ships

LONDON, England, Jan. 7.—The reply of Great Britain to the American note demanding an early improvement in the treatment of American shipping is said to be wholly conciliatory in tone. Britain is willing that the American government purchase ships now idle because of the war. England's attitude, it is understood, is that although such purchases would be beneficial to Germans, England is willing for the ships to be purchased provided they are not used in German trade. It will be satisfactory if they are employed in the development of South American commerce.

### Berlin Says French Have Been Driven From Captured Positions In Argonne

BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 7.—Official—"Severe fighting continues north of Arras to gain possession of the trenches we captured yesterday. The French have been repulsed in the western forest of Argonne from all the positions they took on Tuesday. Their losses were heavy, ours slight."

"The French again yesterday made a hard attempt to capture the hill west of Sennheim, an important position. Their attack broke under our fire. The hill remains ours in spite of their strong efforts."

"On the east the situation is unchanged. Our attacks are developing slowly in spite of the unfavorable weather, though the movement of troops is hampered by the heavy snows."

### Two Significant Gains Claimed By Paris In Today's Bulletin

PARIS, France, Jan. 7.—Today's official bulletin records only negligible episodes in the western fighting, except for two important details.

These are first, further slight gains on the extreme right wing, now reaching two and one-half miles beyond Altkirch, and second, the capture of a portion of the German first-line trenches northwest of Fliry. This latter indicates a hard thrust against the German wedge whose apex is at St. Mihiel.

Rain and mud are reported along almost the entire front, the movements being slow and ineffective.

### French Cabinet Publishes Report Of Commission, Charging Atrocities

PARIS, France, Jan. 7.—The French cabinet publishes the report of the official commission named to investigate war atrocities. The commission has found proof that there never has been a war between civilized nations of such a savage character. Pillage, ravishings and murder are ordinary practices, it says. It declares unfounded the German contention that these are justifiable reprisals for outrages upon German troops by civilians of the invaded countries.

The commission reports that the German army is equipped with elaborate apparatus for starting incendiary fires, including torches, grenades, oil-sprayers, inflammable candles and tablets.